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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for reducing block related artifacts in video are disclosed. A boundary is defined in a video frame between at least two or more sub-blocks where each of the sub-blocks contains a predetermined number of pixels. Pixels

5   adjacent to the boundaries of the sub-blocks may be filtered to reduce blocking artifacts in the video. Pixel video values such as luma and chroma values may be utilized as input values to an anti-block filter. Average mean and average variance of the pixel video values in a sub-block are used to determined when anti-block filtering is applied. Pixels adjacent to the sub-block boundaries are filtered with an anti-block filtering algorithm in

10   the event a predetermined condition is satisfied where the condition may be based upon the calculated average mean and average variance values. The filtering algorithm may include recalculating a pixel video value for pixels adjacent the sub-block boundaries. The invention may be utilized, for example, in converting MPEG-1 video to MPEG-2, and may be used in video devices such as VCD or DVD players, camcorders, etc. It is

15   emphasized that this abstract is provided to comply with the rules requiring an abstract that will allow a searcher or other researcher to quickly ascertain the subject matter of the technical disclosure. It is submitted with the understanding that it will not be used to interpret or limit the scope or meaning of the claims. 37 CFR 1.72(b).